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Fort Hays State University Faculty Senate Minutes, July 20, 1964

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- VIII. Physical Education: 4 hours
IV. Humanities: 9 hours (See report.)

7-27-64

Minutes of the meeting of the Faculty Senate, Monday, July 20, 1964 at 3:30 p.m.
in the Office of the Dean of the Faculty.

Members present: Dr. Bartholomew, Mr. Berland, Mr. Dalton, Dr. Edwards,
Dr. Falls, Mr. Forsythe, Mrs. Hellem, Dr. Pierson, Mr. Rice
Miss Rowlands, Mr. Spomer, Dr. Staven, and Dr. Garwood,
Chairman.

Member absent: Dr. Coder.

Others present: Dr. Belisle, Dr. Herren, Dr. Moss, Dr. Reindorp.

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Dr. Garwood, who explained that the Physical Education and Humanities areas of the Report of the Committee for the Investigation of General Education would be discussed today.

The Committee Report for Physical Education is as follows:

VIII. Physical Education: 4 hours. Two hours of which must be in swimming.

Students passing a physical development test and a swimming test may be exempted from this requirement.

Students passing a swimming test may be exempted from two hours of this requirement.

Dr. Staven, Chairman of the Committee, was asked to explain the Report and reasons for proposing this requirement. Dr. Staven said the Committee felt that the swimming was a very important part of the physical education program and should be required, however if students show skill in the area they would be exempted. The Committee felt that the physical education program should have carry-over value and be of a recreational nature. If the student can show skill of a sufficient degree he might not be required to take the physical education courses.

Dr. Belisle, who was asked for his reaction to the proposed program, said that in looking at this program of swimming, he was doubtful that the present facilities would accommodate such a program. The enrollment in the swim classes is limited to 25 and it is not possible to accommodate more than that. According to the literature in physical education, it is better for the student to choose the physical education activity in which he would like to participate. To require swimming leads to more problems than any of the other activities, i.e., ear infections, colds, etc. What standards would be used in determining proficiency in swimming? One of the main considerations is to decide the type of program which we have. Ours has not been the physical development type. The chief emphasis has been skills to be used during college and afterward. The General Physical Education Development course includes the testing of skills and also a

Knowledge of the skills, i.e., rules, history, background, etc, of the sports. In the Fundamentals of Sports course, two sports are covered and that is to be raised to three for the coming year. In the women's division, the students take Individual and Dual Sports and this includes the same general plan as that for the men.

The kind of tests which might be given to test the skill of the students was discussed. The test would have to determine the degree of proficiency the student should have in order to be exempt from the college course. Dr. Belisle said that it was their idea to maintain the state of fitness rather than to discourage going on with a skill which the student has developed. The Intramurals program encourages students to participate in many sports. The program provides exercise, relieves emotional tensions, develops teamwork, etc. Students probably should be encouraged to develop a skill before taking advanced courses in that skill.

Dr. Belisle stated that 85% of the colleges and universities in the country require physical education. Some of these have 2-year programs and some have only a 1-year program. The question of giving credit for the physical education courses was discussed. It was explained that the physical education credit is beyond the required 120 hours.

It was suggested that there is a trend toward more leisure time and no doubt a part of this should be devoted to exercise and recreational activities. The value of such activities for release of emotional strain is being stressed physicians--Dr. Paul Dudley White is a good example of this.

It was asked if the student who has some proficiency be required to be in the same class with beginners. It was suggested that this is the case in many of the college courses. A physical education program is not and probably could not be equally beneficial to all students.

Dr. Belisle said that he would like to suggest that the physical education courses selected be elective.

The Humanities, Section IV, of the Report was presented as follows:

IV. Humanities: 9 hours

Three hours of literature are compulsory for all students. Six of the nine hours must be in sequence; however, students electing a sequence in literature may not complete their requirement with another literature course. All courses carry three hours credit.

1. American Literature I
American Literature II
2. English Literature I
English Literature II

IV Humanities (Continued.)

3. Introduction to Literature I
Introduction to Literature II
4. Art I
Art II
5. Music I
Music II

Dr. Staven explained that the Committee thought that there would be more depth in requiring six hours of literature and that the art and music should be expanded to give students a broader knowledge. The main idea of the Committee was that there should be more depth in the area of the humanities. Dr. Bartholmew who is a member of the Committee suggested that the areas of language, art, and music should be given more emphasis because these will be worthwhile and of value in looking toward the time of more leisure time.

Dr. Moss said that they have been dissatisfied with the 2-hr. general education course because they felt that they could not really give the necessary material. They feel that they have not been able to cover what is worthwhile. They learned from surveys of the students in the classes that there was just too much material. It was explained that very few students who come to college from high schools in this part of the state have any background for either art or music. It was asked if a student who has been in the high school band, taken part in the Band Camp, etc., would need to take the Introduction to Music course. It was explained that the Introduction to Music course is not applied music and the students who participate in music groups in their high schools do not gain a background for this course. In fact, these students do not do any better in the course and in some cases even not as well as students who do not participate in music groups.

Very few high schools offer any kind of art but they do have very fine physical education programs, etc. Most of the students who enroll in college have had no background of any kind in art.

It was asked if the art, music and literature requirement is increased for the general education, whether part of this could be counted in the major. The present general education program is 41 hours and the proposed program is a total of 52 hours. The Committee members explained that actually it is about the same amount required since the proposed program includes about a third which would be elective. This program is less rigid and less binding in that there is a choice of courses. It was the intention of the Committee to give students some choice in the general education program.

It was stated that the question of free choice of the student was considered by the Committee as being important. In the study, it was shown that the universities and better liberal arts colleges are giving much latitude of choice while the normal-school type of college has the more rigid type of program permitting no choice. It was noted that FHKSC has maintained high standards, and has been a leader. It has been referred to as having a unique program. In view of this it would seem that the new program should be acceptable.

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In the literature area, it was asked how the division would anticipate the enrollment in the program suggested. This would be the main problem. The survey courses in literature were discussed. The English and American literature courses are splendid but they are on the junior-senior level. Students should have more experience in the types of courses. There would be a problem of staffing. The art and music courses are in no sense survey courses.

It was asked if the Senate Members were satisfied with the proposed program. The Humanities area as proposed seems to be satisfactory.

It was asked if the Report seemed to be acceptable so far as it has been examined. It was suggested that the Report could be changed later as experience indicates. There are two more areas to be presented to the Senate. They are psychology and logic and these should be discussed at the next meeting to which Dr. Harbin and Dr. Dick will be invited.

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.